1:Srinivas E-5 (1940-42)1952 AW5 Coorg AW5

with an average elevation of 3,500 feet. The plateau extends as far east as Somwārpēṭ, and then slopes towards the River Kāvēri which marks the eastern frontier of Coorg for some distance.

In the extreme north, the Ēḷusāvira hills run from Koḍlipēṭ to the Kāvēri a few miles north of Fraserpēṭ.

Richter gives a good, short description of the general appearance of Coorg, which is worth reproducing here:

> The general appearance of the country varies considerably in the different districts. In the vicinity of Somwārpēṭ, in the north of Coorg, the hills are gently rounded alternating with sloping glades, interspersed with clumps of forest trees, resembling the finest park scenery in Europe. Near Mercara the hills are closer together and more abrupt, and the ravines deeper and more wild. Towards Fraserpēṭ the country assumes the champaign character of the Mysore plateau, with scattered solitary hills. South of Mercara, in the direction of Vīrarājpēṭ, especially in Beppunāḍ, Kaḍiyetnāḍ, the country is open, the woods are neither dense nor high, and beautiful grassy downs rise from extensive rice valleys.
>
> The eastern frontier between the Kāvēri and Lakshmaṇatīrtha rivers exhibits an almost uninterrupted and impervious forest . . .[1]

The Kāvēri springs from the Brahmagiri mountain, three miles to the west of Bhāgamanḍla. Both the source of the Kāvēri (called Tala Kāvēri or 'Head of the Kāvēri') and Bhāgamanḍla, where the Kanaké joins the Kāvēri, are important centres of pilgrimage to Coorgs and other Hindus. The Kāvēri flows first of all east by south to Siddāpur, where it turns north by east and flows for twenty-five miles along the eastern frontier of Coorg to Sirangāla where it diverges into Mysore. A number of tributaries springing from the various mountains of Coorg join the Kāvēri at several points on its course in Coorg. The River Lakshmaṇatīrtha which rises in the Brahmagiri hills to the extreme south of Coorg is an important tributary of the Kāvēri, but joins it in Mysore.

The rivers are generally in full flood during June, July, and August, when the south-west monsoon is at its height. But they fall rapidly afterwards, and in summer they are usually fordable on foot. They are not navigable, and are little used for irrigation, which is rendered unnecessary by the copious rainfall and the multitude of small rivulets rising in the wooded ravines.

The south-west monsoon, lasting from June till September,

[1] *Manual of Coorg*, Mangalore, 1870, p. 5.

1:Srinivas E-5 (1940-42)1952 AW5 Coorg AW5

132 brings very heavy rainfall to the Western Ghats generally, and Coorg is no exception to the rule. The monsoon is most severe in July, and thereafter it gradually diminishes till it finally comes to a stop towards the end of September.

The north-east monsoon, lasting from November till January, does not compare with the south-west monsoon in the amount of rain it brings, nor does it affect all parts of Coorg uniformly. Only the eastern and south-eastern parts are markedly affected by it.

Coorg, for its size, shows enormous variation in the amount of rainfall received in different parts, some parts like Voṭékolli receiving as much as 250 inches annually, while others like Fraserpēṭ receive only 41 inches annually. Mercara and Vīrarājpēṭ receive annually 131 and 110 inches respectively. Mercara is the normal seat of the government, but during the monsoon it is replaced by Fraserpēṭ.

The year is divided into three seasons, cold, hot, and rainy. The cold season lasts from December to the beginning of March, the hot from March to the beginning of June, and the rainy from June till the middle of December. September marks the end of the severe south-western monsoon, and November the beginning of the north-eastern monsoon, and in between the two there is an uncertain respite from rain.

The climate of Coorg shows regional variation, the eastern and northern parts resembling the climate of Mysore, while Coorg Proper[1] is damper and cooler than Mysore. In Mercara the average temperature for the year is 66·6°. In the monsoon the daily mean temperature is 65° with a daily variation of 15°, while in winter the same daily mean temperature has a greater range of daily variation with 24°, and in the hot season the daily mean temperature of 70° has a variation of 25°. The lowest temperature in winter is 50°, while the maximum reached in summer is 92°. Mercara, however, is a little cooler than the rest of Coorg owing to its comparatively high elevation (3,809 feet).

137 The flora of Coorg does not vary much from the flora of the rest of south India. Very dense forests, containing useful timbers, clothe the sides of the mountains everywhere. In the east the more level tracts are covered with clumps of bamboo interspersed with other trees, some of them timbers. The precious sandalwood tree also grows in this area.

[1] See p. 7 for the meaning of 'Coorg Proper'.

2:Emeneau L-5 (1936-1937) 1938
AW5 Coorg AW5

are performed at the nellaki. After this formal arrangement of the marriage neither party may withdraw from their agreement.

As soon afterwards as all the preparations have been made, a variable period but seldom more than a month or two later, the wedding takes place. The Coorg season for weddings is between the end of the paddy-harvest and the breaking of the S.-W. monsoon, i.e. during the months of April and May. In ancient times any other period was inconvenient and even with the advent of transportation by motorbus and automobile no change has taken place. The day for the marriage is frequently fixed nowadays by an astrologer (kaṇiĕ), and the song gives ample recognition to this, though in this it may reflect the conditions of the last few centuries rather than of more ancient times. The ceremonies take place at the houses of the bride and bridegroom respectively. Ideally these should be the traditional central houses of the respective sibs (called aynumane). In very many cases however these houses are most inaccessible and perhaps not even occupied, and in such cases the actual dwelling-houses of the families are the scene of the ceremonies.

The wedding ceremonies are now to be described. On the first day each of the two persons to be married goes through the mu:rta ceremony in the house of his or her family. It is essentially a ceremony in which the person is blessed and prosperity and fertility are ensured by the sprinkling of rice on the person and feeding him or her with milk by the members of his or her father's and mother's sibs. Early on the following morning the bridegroom arrives at the bride's house. Rice is again sprinkled and milk fed, to the bridegroom by members of the bride's father's sib, to the bride by members of the bridegroom's father's sib. Then follows the sammanda ceremony, by which the bride is made a member of her husband's sib. This is the essential ceremony of the marriage. The bride is then conducted from her house, being stopped as she leaves by her male cross-cousin, and is brought to her husband's house. There she performs the ceremony of carrying water into the house, as an earnest of the household duties that she will perform as a wife in this house. On that night the marriage is consummated. Details of the various ceremonies now follow.

On the first day of the wedding two separate but identical ceremonies called mu:rta are held, one at the bride's house the other at the bridegroom's. To each all the members of the respective sib and of the original sib of the mother of the central figure of the ceremony and all the members of the village sibs are invited. Preparations for the affair, cooking, cleaning and the like, have previously been made by the members of the house assisted by the closest or even by all of the sib-members. The bridegroom bathes on this morning in the bath-house; seven married women, who are not widows, from among his relatives, e.g. his sisters, his mother's and father's sisters, his uncles'

3:Iyer E-5 (no date) 1948 AWS Coorg AWS

136 Since 1902 systematic arrangements have been made by Government for their capture in pits as in Malabar, Cochin and Travancore. Bisons frequent the densest forests and highest hills, especially in Marenad and Hormalnad. Bears generally abound in the north-west. Tigers and leopards are also found. Sambur, spotted deer, and barking deer are general in the woods. The most important bird is the hornbill, but there are pescocks, water fowl and jungle-cock, over and above the most ordinary and common Indian birds. Snakes are plentiful and cobra haunt the bamboo forests. There is a large variety of fish. The best fish in size and quality is the plantain fish.

Meteorology and Climate

132 Coorg is a small country, and yet its high mountain ridges and narrow valleys, its wood-clad hill slopes and open champaign tracts greatly influence its atmospheric conditions. Still the dry eastern district may present as steady a climate as the moist hilly tract along the Ghats or the Mercara plateau. The hot, rainy and cold seasons have to be distinguished. Throughout the year the atmosphere is humid, and humidity is precipitated either in dense mists or in showers of rain. In July the monsoon reaches its greatest vehemence. The Coorg hills send the floods controlled by steep river banks to the east and west and stand forth in renewed beauty. In September the sun breaks through the dense atmosphere. In November the north-east winds carry heavy clouds from the eastern coast which discharge themselves chiefly in the east and south-east of Coorg. The greater part of December is foggy, but towards the end of the month the weather becomes delightfully clear and fresh. The annual rainfall at Mercara is 133 inches. On the whole, the influence of the Coorg climate with its average temperature of 60° F. is salubrious. The nights are cool throughout the year.

Prehistory

172 Our knowledge of the prehistory of Coorg is very scanty. Prehistoric dolmens or burial cairns are found in Coorg as in other parts of South India. The first discovery of them in large numbers was made by Lieut. Mackenzie in 1868 on Bane near Virajpet. Captain Cole followed it up with great enthusiasm and his excavations yielded interesting results. All the cairns found are either level with the ground, or their tops crop just a little out of it. When laid bare, they present a stone chamber 7 ft. x 4 ft. x 5 ft. composed of four upright granite slabs, 7 or 8 inches thick, and a capstone which projects over the uprights. The flooring is likewise of stone. The narrow front slab has an aperture of an irregular curve nearly 2 ft. in diameter broken out from the top and generally faces east. Sometimes a compartment may be two-chambered. These cairns are either

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

In vain, however, the eye searches for towns and villages, churches and castles or other indications of civilized life. Only here and there in nooks and corners, ensconced amongst groves and clusters of cultivated trees and betrayed by a wreath of smoke, can one discover the thatched houses of the Coorgs, who love a solitary abode near their fields. 361

The want of permanent sheets of water, such as extensive tanks or prominent rivers somewhat detracts from the picturesqueness of the landscape, but during a heavy mist or in the monsoon fancy may easily transform the whole country into innumerable islands emerging from a vast agitated sea. 133 132

The general appearance of the country varies considerably in the different districts. In the vicinity of Sómwárapet, in the north of Coorg, the hills are gently rounded alternating with sloping glades, interspersed with clumps of forest trees, resembling the finest park scenery in Europe. Near Mercara the hills are closer together and more abrupt, and the ravines deeper and more wild. Towards Fraserpet the country assumes the champaign character of the Mysore plateau, with scattered solitary hills. South of Mercara, in the direction of Virajpet, especially in Beppunád, Katiednád, the country is open, the woods are neither dense nor high, and beautiful grassy doures[2] rise from extensive rice valleys. 133

The eastern frontier between the Kávéri and the Lakshmana-tírtha river exhibits an almost uninterrupted and impervious forest, inhabited in January, February and March by Kurumbers and Lumbánies and other wandering tribes.

Mountains and their Formation.—The most prominent ridge of mountains in Coorg as to height and extent, is that which culminates in the summits of the Ghats. It stretches in its main outline from Subramanya to the furthest point of the Brahmagiris over or upwards of 60 miles. Seen from the Western Coast near Cannanore the abrupt ascent with the

[2] [Errata: This should read "downs", see Corrigenda sheet, Cat. 116, P. 493 -- Analyst]

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

133 The constant action
[132] of the stormy monsoon rains, however, followed by scorching east winds and a burning sun, has greatly affected the surface of the mountains, and a perpetual process of disintegration of the uppermost portions has imparted to them a somewhat rounded appearance, which does not occur, where the atmospheric influences are less severe, and the alternation of temperature less sudden.

The several members of the metamorphic class of rocks of which the Coorg mountains consist may be found in almost every mountain torrent. They are: granular and foliated or stratified granite (gneiss), which consists of quartz, felspar and mica; syenite, a rock of the appearance of ordinary granite, in which however hornblende is substituted for mica, and mica-schist, a slaty rock chiefly composed of mica and
133 quartz sometimes with imbedded garnets. Near Mercara may
135 be found clay-slate or argillaceous schist of coarse variety. This consists of silica and alumina, combined with a little iron, magnesia potash and carbon; crystalline limestone is present in the neighbourhood of Bellur near Fraserpet and supplies nearly all the requirements for building purposes in Coorg. Among this limestone, which is dug out from the ground in small earthy lumps like the kunkur in the N. W. Provinces and which is perhaps more properly termed magnesian limestone, nodules of magnesite are occasionally met with.

A ferruginous laterite, composed of silicate of alumina and oxyde of iron, appears sporadically in almost every part of Coorg.

135 The ingredients of all these rocks, which are subject to
134 an unceasing process of decomposition, constitute the nature of the soil all over the country and, as a matter of course, on the predominance of the one or other or several of their constituing parts combined with other conditions depends as elsewhere the fertility or sterility of the ground.

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

133 The minor streams vary only in size, which depends upon the length of their course, their general characteristics being the same. They swell with the freshes in the early part of June and flow with violent and boisterous rapidity till October, when they gradually subside in their normal dimensions.

[132] The south-westerly monsoon floods the uplands of Coorg against which it partially breaks, with such a torrent of rain, that during its prevalence small rills, out of which a thirsty herd does not care to drink, are suddenly transformed into streams that are impassable for many days.

133 103 Of the rivers that flow to the westward the *Barapole* (bare *Can.* empty, bare; pole or hole *Can.* river) is the most considerable. It rises with the *Lakshmana-tirta* and *Pápanáshe* on the same plateau of the Brahmagiri hills in Kiggatnád and flows for several miles in almost a straight line through a deep mountain gorge, where it is joined by a tributary that falls over a perpendicular rock of great height and forms a beautiful cascade near the Kudiál coffee estate. Near the Malayalam frontier the Barapole leaps into a chasm upwards of 200 feet deep, and forms a waterfall that, with the wild gloomy forest scenery around, is remarkably picturesque. Then for two miles this river runs along the Coorg frontier up to the point where the *Kallahole* (kallu *Can.* stone) descending through the Heggala-pass unites with it, when the combined streams enter Malabar and debouch near Chiracal into the sea. The Barapole receives the rainfall of 192 square miles, and is navigable from the sea to within 16 miles off the foot of the Ghats. Near Chávachári on the road to Cannanore it is spanned by a wooden bridge, resting on high stone pillars.

[487]

The next stream of importance is the *Nujikal* which drains the Sampáji valley, and follows the main road as far as Sulya, when it turns to the west, receives a tributary that originates on the western slopes of the Todicána-pass and Tala-Káveri,

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

him, should they unobserved gain access to any bare part of his feet; they will bleed him unmercifully till he feels the blood trickling down. The wounds produce with some constitutions festering sores. A simple means for keeping them off is a little salt-bag round the ankle. The medicinal leech (*Can.* atte) is also found in tanks and made use of in the Hospital.

3. Meteorological and climatic conditions of Coorg.

Though Coorg is but a small country, yet its high mountain ridges and narrow valleys, its wood-clad hill slopes and open champaign tracts greatly influence the atmospheric conditions of the locality. Still the dry eastern or Kanawé district may in the mean present as constant a climate as the moist hilly tract along the Ghats or the Mercara plateau. We have to distinguish the hot, the rainy and the cold season, though throughout the year the atmosphere is not without humidity which is precipitated either in dense mists or in showers of rain. From the end of December to the end of March, rain, indeed, is scarce, but in the mornings and evenings the valleys are seldom free from fogs or dews. During these months the dry east wind prevails, which has long ceased to carry remains of north-east monsoon clouds to the Western Ghats. Towards the end of March the clouds begin to collect towards the south-west and the cooling sea breeze blows with more regularity over the Ghats. In April and May the sun increases in power, banks of massive clouds extend along the western horizon, and occasional thunderstorms and showers, indicating the approach of the monsoon, cool the atmosphere which is warm and moist. The thunderstorms during this season are even more impressive than in the low country. Mountains of clouds, in double and treble ranges, float against each other with the order of armies. The sound as of heavy

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

● 132 cannon is heard from a distance; solitary discharges of the electric fluid shoot through the gloom. Now whole batteries seem to be in action; peals of thunder are heard at brief intervals, and the eye shuts involuntarily against the dazzling brilliancy of the lightning. Then the conflict seems to subside, the roar of thunder is heard at greater intervals, the flashes of lightning lose their intense and fearful glare and the rain pours down in torrents.

Towards the end of May the clouds take up a firm position in the western sky and grow in massiveness. In June the rapport between the western sea and the atmosphere of Coorg is fully established. Rain prevails, descending at times softly, but more frequently with great violence and heavy gusts of wind. In July the monsoon reaches its greatest vehemence. The clouds seem to be inexhaustible, the blasts of the wind irresistible! As much as 74 inches of rain have been registered within this month, and for several days in succession 5, 6 and 7 inches within 24 hours! The sun is often not seen for weeks, and existence in the province would be as dull and gloomy as the clouds overhead, did not the inhabitants adapt themselves to circumstances and learn to make light of the incessant downpour. But it is pardonable if one is sometimes tempted to envy those favoured few, who may bask all the while in the mild sunshine of pleasant Fraserpet, the monsoon-head-quarters of the Superintendent, 20 miles to the east of Mercara, where the roaring Kávéri river and an occasional shower from the fringe of the monsoon clouds are the only signs of the rainy season in the highlands. In August the rain is considerably less and a few days break with an open sunny sky, atones for all the past discomforts. The ancient Coorg hills send the floods controlled by steep river banks to the east and west and stand forth in renewed beauty. In September the sun breaks through the dense atmosphere. In October the north-east

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

wind strong and cold, gains the ascendency and clears the sky; in November, however, it often carries heavy clouds from the eastern coast, which discharge themselves chiefly upon the east and south-east of Coorg. The greater part of December is foggy, but towards the end of the month the weather becomes delightful, clear and fresh, the thermometer falling to a minimum of 50°. 132 •

The meteorological observations in Coorg are almost confined to Mercara, the principal station. From the tables in the appendix which are based upon my observations for 7 years, the following facts may be deduced for the meteorological condition of Mercara, near the Central School. The mercurial barometer shows its maximum height during the hot weather months and reaches 26° 60′ and its minimum during the monsoon, when it falls to 26° 15′. The thermometer indicates a moderate temperature, owing not to the latitude, but only to the elevation of the country. During the cold months, from October to January inclusive, the daily average variation ranges over 24° Fahrenheit between the extremes, giving a daily mean of 65°; during the hot weather months, February to May inclusive, the daily mean temperature is 70°, deduced from the average extremes 57° and 82° which show a daily variation of 25°; during the monsoon, from June to September, the temperature is most equable, moving between the extremes 60° and 75° which leave only a daily variation of 15° and a daily mean of temperature of 65° for these months. [654]

The prevailing winds are: west wind just before and during the monsoon; north-east wind directly after the monsoon; and east to south-east wind during the remaining season.

The percentage of humidity, as exhibited by Dr. Bidie in his "Report on the Ravages of the Borer", varies between 48 and 87, the minimum occurring in December and the

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

● 132 maximum at the end of September; very gradually and steadily rising 10 cents from January until May, when with a bound it increases 10 cents in May, 5 cents in June, 5 cents in July, and after a decrease of 5 cents in August it reaches the maximum of 87 cents in September, falls 10 cents in October, 10 in November and 22 in December, when it attains its minimum.

The mean annual rainfall for the past 7 years amounts to 123·80 inches of which at a monthly average 1·90 inches fell during the hot, 26·43 inches during the monsoon and 2·64 inches during the cold season. According to the scientific theory of the south-west monsoon, the rainfall in Coorg would seem to be entirely dependent on the geographical position and geological configuration of the country, but practical experience attests the fact, which is also corroborated by the annexed pluvimetrical table, that the rainfall has for the last four years been steadily decreasing and the cause is attributed to the extensive denudation of forest-clad hills for coffee cultivation, contemporaneously with the natural decay of all the bamboos in Coorg. The same amount of vapours as in former years may be carried from the sea over the Ghats, but the local power of attracting the rain clouds has diminished with the disappearance of the forests. No one who has attentively watched the sailing of clouds over partially wooded hill-tops can have failed to observe their lingering hovering-over and descent upon the forests, whereas over the bare hills the clouds sweep past with unimpeded velocity. The rains are neither as heavy, regular or continuous, as they used to be, and since there is less rain sinking into the ground and the retaining qualities of the soil have been reduced by the extensive clearing of forests and jungles, there are fewer springs and shallower streams and the country in general has become drier. Were it not for the incidental droughts, injurious to coffee planting, and

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

the increasing difficulty of rice cultivation in some parts of the country, the change might be hailed as a most welcome improvement in the Coorg climate, which for the sake of human health might be still less loaded with moisture. 132

On the whole the influence of the Coorg climate with its average temperature of 66° 6′ is salubrious. The nights are cool throughout the year and Europeans are able to take exercise in the open air at all hours. European children in particular enjoy excellent health and their fat rosy cheeks form a striking contrast to the thin pale faces of those in the low country.

The rarified, often cold and damp air of Mercara with the usually prevailing high winds, necessarily does not agree with asthmatic and bronchial affections, chronic disorders of the liver and dysenteric complaints, but Frasерpet, which is 1,000 feet lower than Mercara, affords a salutary change during the rainy season.

The native troops, especially new arrivals from the low country, suffer much from the cold and damp and are, during their first year of acclimatization, subject to fever and bowel complaints, but in time even they enjoy the bracing climate of Mercara. [701] [164]

The climate of the valleys, particularly during the hot months preceding the monsoon, when, as the natives say, the old and new waters are mixed, is far from being healthy. Fevers, agues and bowel complaints are then very frequent and protracted. For the rest of the year the natives of the country pronounce the climate to be excellent especially after the monsoon. Besides the dreaded Coorg fever, which appears in its worst form, especially to Europeans, in the vicinity of Atur in south-east Coorg and about Sampáji on the western boundary, small-pox has laid a fearful hold upon the natives though vaccination is much in vogue. Cholera but seldom makes its appearance; and yields readily to treat- 132 164 [751]

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

●132 ment. A peculiar ulcer-disease on the limbs has lately been
[164] rather prevalent about Virajpet, which is ascribed to impoverished blood, for want of nourishing animal diet.

The account which natives of Mysore or from the Western
[727] Coast give of the climate of Coorg is not favorable. They
[648] have experience on their side. Of the large number of people, whom Tippu sent from Mysore to replace the ancient inhabitants, or who during the various wars were carried off by the Coorg Rajahs from the neighbouring countries to cultivate
[167] their lands, but few survived the change. In our days the thousands of Mysore coolies who annually emigrate to work on the Government roads or on coffee-estates stand the climate much better, care being bestowed upon them and a periodical return to their homes being rendered practicable.

241
198 **4. Cultivation of the principal productions.**

Native agriculture in Coorg, as elsewhere in India, is still carried on as it was centuries ago. A system of rural economy, formed at a remote period and transmitted for ages unchanged, is not likely to be disturbed by so conservative a people, as are the Coorgs.

243 *Rice* is the staple product of Coorg. The numerous valleys throughout the land have, from ancient times, yielded an unfailing supply every year for home consumption and for exportation to the Malabar Coast. The rice-valleys are most extensive in South-Coorg, in the neighbourhood of Virajpet and in Kiggatnád, where some fields are of considerable breadth and several miles in length; but owing to the surrounding low, deforested hills which yield little fertilizing detrition, the soil is of a quality inferior to those fields of the narrower valleys near the Ghats, where the ground is terraced at considerable pains, but every field large enough for the use of the plough. The lower and broader fields of a

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

632 [485] of the former fort. It was a happy thought to select this spot for a travellers' bangalow, where after a weary journey over the monotonous Mysore-roads the traveller is placed in the midst of a charming scenery, a worthy introduction into Coorg!

● [132] From the position of Fraserpet its climate is hotter than that of Mercara, but during the monsoon it is extremely pleasant, as very little rain falls there and the heat of the sun is moderated by constant clouds and light fogs. The nights are cool and pleasant, nor is the sun ever very oppressive at any season, except for an hour or two at midday; after the monsoon, however, and especially after considerable inundations by the Kávéri, the place becomes feverish and is not inhabited by Europeans.

The town was named "Fraserpet" in honor of General [162] [361] Fraser, the first Commissioner of Coorg. It contains now 326 houses, mostly tiled, and a population of 1,213 souls, of whom 360 are Christians, 388 Mussulmans and 465 Hindus. [368] The town can boast of a Roman Catholic Church, a newly built shrine, dedicated to Ganapati, with a very useful public well in front of it, an Anglo-Vernacular School, a native rest-house with a tank and a Government wood-yard, besides the [795] European bangalows. The Roman Catholics are mostly native or East Indian pensioned soldiers and their families, a detachment of Sappers and Miners having been stationed there when employed in making the great road to Mercara and the bridge over the Kávéri.

[131] *Sómawárpet* in Yedavanád is 26¼ miles to the north of [362] Mercara and of the same elevation. It lies on the highroad [162] to Manjerabad, but there is nothing remarkable connected [241] with the Petta. Of its 197 houses 19 are tiled and 178 [437] thatched. Of the 953 inhabitants 862 are Hindus and 91 Mussulmans. There are but few cultivators, most of them live on trade in various articles. Though fully alive to their

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

657 vince should make their own arrangements, a supposition
648 which has proved impracticable, as there is not enough re-
657 munerative work for a private practitioner. Besides the Mi-
648 litary Hospital there is a Civil Dispensary; but it does not
743 receive that ready support from the wealthier natives, which would render so needful and benevolent an institution a more comfortable asylum for the sick poor.

There seems to be a more charitable spirit in Vírájpet, where Ráyanna Shetti, a merchant, has undertaken to erect and maintain a similar institution and Government granted a native medical subordinate for its charge. At the Mercara Dispensary 4,787 patients were aided during 1869-70 at a cost of Rs. 4,484, towards which Government contributed Rs. 2,916, whilst the private subscriptions and donations amounted only to Rs. 897.

657 Vaccination is attended to by two native vaccinators each
751 at Rs. 15 pay per mensem, under the medical officer's con-
164 trol, but, though the Coorgs at least are very anxious to have their children vaccinated, the operations seem not to be very successful and small-pox remains still a much dreaded epidemic.

657 To accord to the natives of Coorg a readier access to
648 medical aid, it has been proposed to educate a few Coorg lads for the medical profession, to practise hereafter, either as subordinates in the Civil department, or independently as "Native Doctors," and there is every prospect that the scheme will be carried out.

● 132 About the climate of Coorg and its influence upon human health vide p. 85 ff.

Appendix IV.

MERCURIAL BAROMETER-OBSERVATIONS AT MERCARA

REGISTERED BY REV. G. RICHTER WITH BLAND AND LONG'S INSTRUMENT.

Months.	1866.			1867.			1868.			1869.			1870.			Average.		
	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.
January . .	26·44	26·56	26·50	26·43	26·55	26·49	26·40	26·59	26·50	26·49	26·55	26 51	26·34	26·50	26·43	26·42	26·55	26·48
February . .	– 42	– 58	– 50	– 43	– 55	– 48	– 40	– 60	– 49	– 45	– 60	– 50	– 40	– 52	– 45	– 53	– 57	– 48
March . . .	– 44	– 57	– 50	– 45	– 60	– 50	– 40	– 55	– 50	– 45	– 60	– 50	– 41	– 53	– 49	– 43	– 57	– 49
April . . .	– 42	– 54	– 48	– 40	– 50	– 45	– 40	– 60	– 46	– 44	– 55	– 49	– 37	– 50	– 43	– 40	– 54	– 46
May . . .	– 32	– 52	– 42	– 26	– 48	– 38	– 34	– 55	– 47	– 35	– 55	– 44	– 32	– 45	– 39	– 32	– 51	– 42
June . . .	– 22	– 45	– 34	– 25	– 40	– 37	– 15	– 47	– 35	– 30	– 47	– 35	– 29	– 40	– 35	– 24	– 42	– 35
July . . .	– 30	– 42	– 36	– 30	– 45	– 36	– 29	– 40	– 35	– 30	– 45	– 36	– 28	– 38	– 31	– 29	– 42	– 35
August . .	– 27	– 44	– 36	– 29	– 45	– 34	– 25	– 45	– 36	– 29	– 40	– 34	– 30	– 40	– 34	– 25	– 43	– 35
September .	– 30	– 42	– 36	– 28	– 50	– 39	– 33	– 45	– 39	– 25	– 45	– 37	– 31	– 40	– 35	– 29	– 44	– 38
October . .	– 15	– 50	– 39	– 35	– 47	– 41	– 35	– 48	– 44	– 35	– 42	– 39	– 20	– 40	– 34	– 25	– 45	– 39
November .	– 41	– 54	– 47	– 40	– 59	– 49	– 35	– 50	– 47	– 40	– 50	– 45	– 30	– 52	– 42	– 37	– 53	– 46
December .	– 40	– 58	– 49	– 50	– 58	– 51	– 47	– 52	– 50	– 40	– 50	– 45	– 42	– 59	– 50	– 44	– 55	– 49

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AWS Coorg AWS

132

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

Appendix V.

THERMOMETER-OBSERVATIONS AT MERCARA

TAKEN BY REV. G. RICHTER, WITH PASTORELLI & CO.'S AND NEWMAN & SON'S INSTRUMENTS.

Months.	1866.			1867.			1868.			1869.			1870.			Average.		
	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.
January . . .	52°	75°	63°	51°	79°	64°	51°	80°	67°	56°	76°	67°	50°	76°	63°	52°	77°	65°
February . . .	54	84	70	58	85	70	52	85	67	52	81	69	54	79	66	54	83	67
March . . .	54	85	70	55	85	71	54	85	70	54	84	70	56	82	69	54	84	70
April	59	82	70	61	79	70	60	84	73	54	86	72	56	85	71	58	83	71
May	67	76	72	64	78	71	62	83	72	61	84	72	59	81	71	62	80	72
June	61	80	68	63	77	67	61	81	66	60	75	66	59	79	68	61	78	67
July	61	70	64	61	75	66	60	77	65	61	75	65	58	67	63	60	73	65
August . . .	62	70	66	62	71	68	60	73	65	59	78	67	58	75	67	60	73	66
September . .	61	76	66	58	75	65	60	78	66	60	70	65	58	74	67	59	74	66
October . . .	59	76	64	62	77	68	57	78	68	58	74	66	55	75	66	58	76	66
November. . .	51	77	66	51	81	66	50	75	64	50	74	64	53	74	66	51	76	65
December. . .	52	77	65	53	80	65	53	76	65	53	75	63	51	75	63	52	76	64

Appendix VI.

RAINFALL AT MERCARA IN INCHES AND CENTS,

REGISTERED BY REV. G. RICHTER WITH MURRAY AND HEATH'S PLUVIOMETER.

Year.	Jan.	Febr.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
1863	0	0	0·45	1·25	2·30	4·78	41·74	39·46	22·95	10·08	10·98	1·40	134·99
1864	0	0	0	1·52	4.72	24·79	74·40	19·00	11·22	3·35	0·98	1·40	141·38
1865	0	0	1·23	2·50	9·33	21·17	64·82	36·91	9·08	2·84	2·28	0	150·16
1866	0	0	0	1·63	2·41	38·59	23·52	17·66	9·14	14·68	0·13	2·28	110·04
1867	0	0	3·70	1·48	8·56	19·89	37·47	19·80	14·02	6·07	0·03	0	111·00
1868	1·33	0	1·39	1·92	3·49	30·98	19·80	25·92	4·55	4·35	1·52	0	95·25
1869	0	0	1·22	2·12	2·05	26·24	44·18	14·14	11·75	9·86	1·90	0·20	113·66
1870	0·38	0	3·54	0·10	2·24	30·21	32·29	19·66	11·68	6·64	1·82	0	108·56
Average	0·21	0	1·44	1·56	4·39	24·58	42·27	24·07	11·79	7·23	2·45	0·66	120·65

Note: The difference in the average total, stated here and on p. 84, is explained by the additional year 1870 being taken into account.

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AWS Coorg AWS

132

4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AWS Coorg AWS

132

Appendix VII.

GENERAL METEREOLOGICAL ABSTRACT FOR THE THREE SEASONS

DEDUCED FROM THE PRECEDING TABLES.

SEASONS.	Barometer.			Thermometer.			Rainfall.		WIND.
	6 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean.	Min.	Max.	Mean.	Inches.	Cents.	
Cold Season, October—January	26·29	26·51	26·45	54°	76°	65°	10	55	N. E. and E.
Hot Season, February—May	26·33	26·44	26·37	57°	82°	70°	7	39	E. and S. W.
Wet Season, June—September	26·21	26·34	26·27	60°	74°	66°	102	71	W.
Average for the year	26·28	26·43	26·36	57°	77°	67°	120	65	

6:Spate N-4 (no date)1954 AWI India
Kanada AWI0
Coorg AW5
Tamil AW16

[Fig. 125 (a)] GHATS SECTION

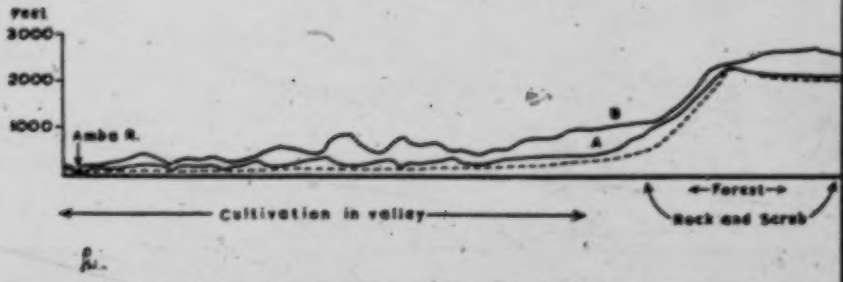

FIG. 125.—SECTION ACROSS THE GHATS. The scarp is here 32 mls WNW of Poona, B interfluve 1 ml N of A; C, crest of spur between Pauna R. and Lonavla. Note that Pauna from SOI 47F/6; vertical exaggn 2·1.

station at 4000–5000 ft, used by Bombay officials. Its excessive rainfall (260 ins.) gives it a short season; Panchgani, only 12 miles E, receives no more than 60 ins. and has a less fluctuating population, receiving not only some of the hot-weather exodus from the plains, but a rains exodus from Mahabaleshwar itself.

Farther S the dissected belt is higher and wider in the coulisses of Coorg, around the Cauvery headwaters; some points in the girdle of ranges on the N, W, and S reach over 5500 ft. Most of Coorg was originally evergreen forest and bamboo jungle, with some parkland to the E. The average annual temperature is only 60° F., humidity high, rainfall at the capital, Mercara, 133 ins. Of the million acres of Coorg a third are forested and nearly a third cultivated, though of that about half is generally fallow. Rice accounts for 56% of the cropped area, coffee about 30%. The little State (1593 sq mls, 1951 poptn 229,405) is inhabited by a remarkably sturdy peasantry, with their own language (Kodalu): isolated, perhaps fortunately, from the main currents of Indian life, they half-cultivate half-gather cardamoms, collect wax and honey, and hunt, to supplement the product of their paddy-fields: it is typical that even the backbreaking labour of transplanting paddy seedlings ends in a race.[1] The Wynaad Plateau links Coorg with the great boss of the Nilgiris; the tea and coffee plantations of the plateaus extend down the slopes into Malabar, where Mangalore and Calicut are the main outlets.

The Southern Blocks

On either side the Palghat Gap is dominated by the highest mountains of the Peninsula, Nilgiris to the N and the Anaimalai-Palni-Cardamoms

[1] For a full and interesting, if disjointed, account of Coorg see L. A. Krishna Iyer, "Coorg Ethnology" (*JG*) XXII (1947), 157–225).

● 132, 113 Coorg AW5

[For a description of climate regions of the Indian sub-continent and its general effects on agriculture and health, see 6: Spate AW1 India, category 116, pp. 40-62.]